

News briefs

MLK holiday

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ceremonies scheduled to honor the slain civil rights leader will go on as planned Monday, however, that will still be a duty day for the 52nd Fighter Wing.

Col. Stephen Mueller, 52nd FW commander, said it's imperative that the wing uses this time to continue support for the president's recent tasking. Mueller asks each member of Team Eifel to take a moment and reflect on the legacy left by King as the wing continues to prepare for future operations and the war on terrorism.

CGO meeting

The Company Grade Officers' Council meets today at 4:30 p.m. on the Spang Club patio. The event features a services squadron briefing and DVD drawing. All CGOs are encouraged to attend.

Deployed family

A festival especially for deployed families takes place Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex building 2001. The family readiness program sponsored event features morale calls at 10 a.m., lunch at 11 a.m., and face painting, letter writing, movies and games throughout the day. Call 452-6894 for more information or to register.

Awards banquet

The 52nd Fighter Wing 2002 Annual Awards Banquet takes place Feb. 15 in the base fitness center. Cocktail hour is at 5:30 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$20. Dress is mess dress and semi-formal. Call unit first sergeants by Feb. 7 to reserve seats.

Volunteers needed

Volunteer help is needed at the Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex Airman's Attic, Loan Locker, libraries, in the schools and at other base agencies. No experience is necessary. Also, base volunteers may qualify for recognition program benefits. Call Kelly Childs, base volunteer resource program manager, at 452-9491 for more information.

German container deposit

As of Jan. 1, a new German recycling law requires a deposit called 'Dosenpfandverordnung' be paid on all beverage containers, including soda cans, plastic bottles, and glass bottles produced within Germany.

The charge of .25 euro is refunded upon its return only by the store where the purchase was made. A receipt or a stamp certifies the purchase.

This new German deposit requirement applies to products purchased on the local economy and on some containers sold at the base commissary and shoppette.

Excluded from this deposit requirement are mixed drink containers, such as vodka and whisky or cola and orange beverage, wine bottles, fruit juice containers and all carton containers.

Cans and plastic or glass bottles that aren't returned for the deposit should be disposed of in the proper recycling containers.

For more information, call the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight at 452-5125.

created through the mandated closing of Rhein-Main Air Base in Frankfurt. With this additional capability, Spangdahlem AB will support a multitude of theater contingency operations, including a Tanker Task Force mission.

Construction continues in preparation for Rhein-Main transition

Team Eifel community can expect 'flurry of activity' on Spangdahlem AB Perimeter Road, taxiways

By Pete Neukom
52nd Fighter Wing Rhein-Main Transition Office

Looking ahead to the year 2006, Spangdahlem Air Base will become one of Air Mobility Command's enroute logistical bases. This unique responsibility has been

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Jan. 17, 2003

Airman First Class Karolina Gmyrek
From left to right, Airmen 1st Class Terry Wright, Andy Hayes, Omer Hall and Daniel Blair, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron work together gathering cargo weights and measurements on deploying equipment to prepare it for loading on transport aircraft Jan. 7 .

Spangdahlem airmen head out to support Enduring Freedom

Morale high as fighting 52nd deploys for future operations

By 2nd Lt. Gerardo Gonzalez
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Around 200 airmen from the 52nd Fighter Wing departed for the Central Command Area of Responsibility Sunday to augment Air Expeditionary Forces 7 and 8 and preposition themselves for future contingencies.

Sunday's group, the largest of the approximately 500 people originally tasked to deploy, left Spangdahlem Air Base in the early hours of the morning aboard a contracted DC-10 aircraft.

Prior to their departure, the deploying Team Eifel members, most dressed in recently issued desert camouflage uniforms, gathered at their squadrons before being taken by bus to the base theater for a deployment reassembly where they received several briefings and watched a movie prior to departing to an undisclosed location in the CENTOM AOR.

"I want to thank you for what you're doing for your country," said Col. Stephen Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, during an early morning pep talk to the 200-plus airmen who filled the base theater Sunday.

You have the opportunity to shape the Air Force and the world, said Mueller. You have the opportunity to not only put

an end to the deployments "downrange" that have been going on for over a decade and keeping us away from our families, but also to help in the fight to rid the world of weapons of mass destruction.

Prior to going to the base theater, members of the 52nd Consolidated Maintenance Squadron gathered outside of building 207 in the chilly winter temperatures where they spent time with co-workers and supervisors and were given the opportunity to say good-bye to loved ones.

Maj. Geoffrey Bacon, 52nd CMS commander, was on hand to say farewell to his troops before they loaded up in the buses and headed to the deployment reassembly. As they gathered around the bus, Bacon, placed himself in the center of the crowd and barked-out the squadron's motto, "COBRAS!" at which the group of approximately 30 airmen replied in unison with a thunderous, "STRIKE!"

"These are a great bunch of guys," said Bacon, watching proudly as his troops gathered their bags and loaded into the

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chief. "Over the next 27 months, Team Eifel will see a flurry of activity. It will be a very busy time for the base considering the construction which will be occurring simultaneously on the north side."

Many significant Rhein-Main Transition Program projects are currently underway and several are already complete.

See RMTP, Page 2

RMTP

Continued from Page 1

Team Eifel members driving along Memorial Drive can see the recently completed 77-foot tall Airport Surveillance Radar. Collocated with the tower is a new building that houses equipment and serves as a test and maintenance support facility.

A companion project to the ASR, the relocation of the Tactical Air Navigation aid near Ramp 4, was also recently completed. It was necessary to relocate the ASR and TACAN to allow for demolition activities scheduled for Monday.

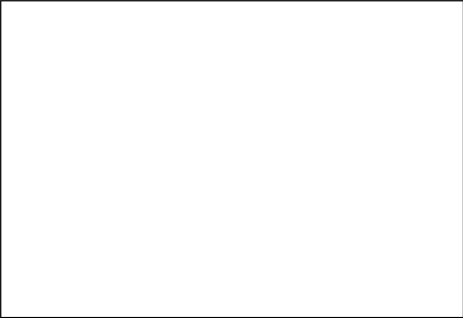
Other changes include the removal of the large tent, fire training pit, storage compound, and used parts lot located on Perimeter Road. The site will ultimately become a portion of

the new main ramp for Air Mobility Command.

More changes can also be seen near the large vehicle inspection station, with the relocation of the perimeter fence, a new perimeter road is currently under construction and contractor staging areas are being set up.

To help alleviate traffic congestion, the German government is building a traffic circle on B-50, near the Herforst turn-off, which is scheduled for completion in April.

In March, the base's main runway closes for approximately six months. Runway projects include the construction of overruns, hammerheads, connecting taxiways and the installation of protective asphalt runway shoulders. Cost for these projects exceeds 8.2 million euro.



(Editor's note: SPANGDAHLEM Under Construction is a periodic update of projects around the base. The goal is to inform people of base construction and facility renovations, and how it impacts base employees and residents. 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron officials provide column information.)

Project and location: Construction of a traffic circle at the Perimeter Road and Arnold Boulevard intersection, near the bowling center.

Start date: Jan. 27

Estimated completion date: June

Cost and contract: Construction of the traffic circle is part of the Northwest Infrastructure project valued at \$6.2 million.

Current impact: The section of Perimeter Road located in front of dormitory 332 will be closed. Traffic will be rerouted to Smith Avenue and Arnold Boulevard. Drivers are encouraged to use caution when driving near the construction site and to obey the temporarily implemented speed limits and detour signs.

Air Force smallpox vaccination program underway

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force chief of staff has directed the immediate implementation of the smallpox vaccination program.

In a Jan. 6 policy memorandum to major command commanders, Gen. John P. Jumper outlined details of the commanders' force protection program against the deadly biological warfare agent.

The first Air Force people to be vaccinated will be medical people and designated forces that constitute specific mission-critical capabilities. The identified medics include Smallpox Epidemiological Response Team members at Brooks City-Base, Texas, those responsible for administering the vaccine to other airmen, and base-level smallpox medical team members (medics who have been selected to treat anyone who contracts the disease).

According to the Air Force smallpox vaccination implementation plan, some civilian employees and contractors will also be vaccinated.

Other U.S. forces will be vaccinated depending upon circumstances.

Although vaccinations will begin immediately, the program's director said airmen would be vaccinated in stages.

"It is expected that up to 30 percent of the people receiving the vaccine will have minor reactions that result in the loss of one or more duty days," said Brig. Gen. Robert L. Smolen, director of nuclear and counterproliferation.

According to medical officials, the smallpox vaccine is a "live virus" vaccine that uses vaccinia virus. People cannot contract smallpox from the vaccine.

"Smallpox vaccine has some well-recognized side effects," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Kelly Woodward, chief of preventive medicine at the Air Force Medical Operations Agency. "Many people

Who doesn't qualify

The smallpox vaccine isn't for everyone. People who fall into one or more of the following categories should consult an immunizations technician before taking the vaccine.

- People whose immune system isn't working fully due to disease, medication or radiation therapy.
- People with current skin conditions, such as burns, impetigo, or contact dermatitis until the condition clears.
- Pregnant women or mothers who are currently breastfeeding.
- People in contact with people who meet any of the above conditions.
- People who have had serious problems after previous doses or is allergic to the vaccine, regardless of their health status.

(Information courtesy of www.smallpox.army.mil)

can expect to have minor side effects, such as feeling achy, low-grade fever, headache and itching at the injection site.

"Those are minor reactions and resolve on their own."

In rare cases, Woodward said, the virus may erupt widely over the body instead of remaining confined to the vaccination site.

Public education is one of the plan's major components. Recipients must be informed about the vaccine and its contraindications before inoculation.

People getting the vaccine will receive a briefing on expected reactions, adverse events, and how to access health care for medical concerns.

As a minimum, people will receive a copy of the smallpox

vaccine trifold (available under the "Educational Products" icon at the Department of Defense smallpox Web site, www.vaccines.army.mil). People may get information at mass briefings or commanders' calls. Local health care professionals can also provide smallpox information.

According to the plan, recipients will be screened before inoculation. The screening form is available under the "Forms" icon at the DOD smallpox Web site. Anyone who answers "yes" or "unsure" to a question on the form will not receive the vaccine until they have received further medical evaluation.

The Air Force is taking the extra screening precautions because the smallpox vaccine has unique contraindications, or reasons to avoid it, Woodward said.

"Contraindications in either the individual receiving the vaccine or the person's household contacts will preclude a non-emergency vaccination," he said. "It's important that people receiving the vaccine take the time to consider the medical condition of others in their household as they go through the screening process."

Certain dermatological conditions, such as eczema and atopic dermatitis, increase the risk of complications from the smallpox vaccine. Those with a history of dermatological conditions should make sure to point them out during the screening process, Woodward said.

Other medical criteria that preclude vaccination include pregnancy, nursing mothers and HIV infection.

While the plan calls for people to be vaccinated before deploying to high-threat areas, non-vaccination does not necessarily preclude mobilization, Smolen said, since the vaccine may be successfully administered up to four days after exposure.

Smallpox vaccinations are given in a single dose, usually in the nondominant deltoid muscle (left upper arm for right-handed people, and vice versa). Revaccination is recommended every 10 years.

Accidents

By John W. Keeler
52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Twenty-seven Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, four of which were major.

The first happened on A-48, near Colon-Pulch. An airman reported that while he was passing another vehicle he hit a patch of black ice on the roadway, lost control of his vehicle and hit a guardrail. A polizei investigation concluded that the driver was traveling too fast for road conditions and operating a vehicle with summer tires during the winter. No injuries were reported. The vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The second happened on the Spangdahlem Air Base flightline. A tow bar broke while towing an aircraft. Consequently, the aircraft collided with the tow vehicle. No injuries were reported. The tow vehicle and the aircraft sustained damage. The accident is under review.

The third was at the intersection of L-46 and Burg Strasse. An airman reported that he had failed to yield the right of way at the intersection when his vehicle hit another. There were no injuries. The airman's vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene. The other vehicle sustained minor damage.

The fourth was at the intersection of L-2 and L-46. A civilian assigned to Spangdahlem AB stated that she had fallen asleep behind the wheel. No injuries were reported. The vehicle sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene.

The 23 minor accidents involved:

- 15 from inattentive driving.
- One for speeding too fast for conditions.
- Two from wildlife.
- Four from backing.

In addition, 46 citations were issued.



Tech. Sgt. Joseph Springfield

New and improved

Red and white construction tape drapes newly installed playground equipment at the Speicher government-leased housing area. The new equipment is one of many recent improvements the 52nd Fighter Wing has initiated for GLHs. Other improvements include boiler upgrades, carpet, dishwasher and lighting replacements, and patio enlargements in various GLH areas.

Wing members garner awards

U.S. Air Forces in Europe officials recently recognized the following members, squadrons and agencies for their outstanding achievements throughout 2002.

52nd Fighter Wing Staff Agency

Maj. Vernie Pendley, 52nd FW – Air Force chief of safety individual safety award

52nd FW Ground Safety Office – Air Force chief of safety outstanding ground safety achievement award

Tech. Sgt. James Douglas, 52nd FW Safety Office – Air Force chief of safety special achievement award

Karl-Heinz Abramowski, 52nd Comptroller Squadron – financial services civilian

Senior Master Sgt. Lyle Brown, 52nd CPTS – financial management superintendent

Staff Sgt. Jason Schenck, 852nd Munitions Support Squadron, Buechel Air Base, Germany – financial management non-commissioned officer

52nd Maintenance Group

52nd MUNSS, Klein Brogel, Belgium – Nuclear surety plaque

Capt. Raymond Handrich, 52nd MUNSS – Air Force nuclear surety outstanding achievement award

852nd MUNSS – Public service excellence award

Capt. Joseph Bobrowski, 852nd MUNSS – Arthur S. Flemming award

52nd Mission Support Group

52nd MSS – Outstanding mission support squadron

Margaret Dominik, 52nd MSS –

Outstanding civilian personnel intermediate program manager

Master Sgt. Annette Henderson and **Staff Sgt. Lonney Johnson**, 52nd MSS – Enlisted professional military education achievement award, category I and IV, respectively

52nd Operations Group

Lt. Col. Kevin Booth, 52nd Operations Support Squadron – Koren Kolligan award

22nd Fighter Squadron – Flight safety plaque

Wing officials recently recognized the following individuals for their outstanding achievements.

52nd MXG

Staff Sgt. Leslie Brandt, **Senior Airman Jason Rivera** and **Airman 1st Class Bradley Smith**, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron – Weapons load crew of the year 2002

Senior Airman Famous Williams, 52nd AMXS – Jammer driver of the year 2002

52nd OG

Capt. Henry Jeffress, 23rd Fighter Squadron – Fourth quarter 2002, wingman

Capt. Chris Kibble, 23rd FS – Fourth quarter 2002, flight lead

Capt. Jared Hutchinson, 23rd FS – Fourth quarter 2002, instructor pilot

The following people were also recently recognized for their outstanding achievements.

Tech. Sgt. Melissa Smiley, NATO Force Command, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium, and **Tech. Sgt. Robert E. Thompson Jr.**, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron - Kisling NCO Academy Class 2003-1 graduates

Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek
Harald Plein, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Outbound Element lead transportation clerk, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Top Saber Performer

Name: Harald Plein

Unit: 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Outbound Element

Duty title: Lead transportation clerk

Hometown: Binsfeld, Germany

Years in service: 20

Contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: Harald Plein is the recognized wing expert for all overland cargo shipments. He's indispensable to the success of the wing mobility process by keeping wing leaders informed on the status of all wing cargo. Additionally, he schedules commercial trucks to transport wing training and tactical deployments cargo. Recently, his knowledge of European transport regulations contributed to the success of a no-notice military working dog shipment and maintenance support request for the 2002 NATO summit in Prague, Czech Republic. "Harald" closely inspects all cargo to ensure agriculture compliance in accordance with local and international prescribed publications and was the engineer behind the outbound element receiving a "zero discrepancy" rating during the 2002 Department of Agriculture Reaccreditation Inspection. Daily, he verifies documentation accuracy for cargo entering the Defense Transportation System pipeline, uses the Cargo Movement Operations System, commercial computer systems and the Internet to check cargo backlogs, and tracks the cargo transit times according to the Worldwide Express contract.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: He is a volunteer fireman with the Binsfeld Fire Department

What do you do for fun? Or, What's a fun thing you've done lately?

Exercising and lifting weights, plus spending time with the family .

What do you like most about being stationed here? The challenges my work bring, plus the opportunity to meet new people all the time.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? The parking situation.

Eifel Salutes

52nd Operations Group

Thanks go out to **Staff Sgt. Christopher Kelley** for keeping a stranded motorist out of harm's way and offering a ride. What a great Samaritan!

52nd Maintenance Group

From the 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron comes **Master Sgt. Dennis Winkler** who has gone "above and beyond" as the swing shift production supervisor. **Staff Sgt. Jerry Claytor** swung into action as a fill-in specialist expeditor and his professional management of flight line maintenance guaranteed a smooth recovery of aircraft returning from Nellis Air Force Base. Speaking of Nellis AFB, **Tech. Sgt. Christopher Clements** played a big part in the "resounding success" during the deployment. Congratulations!

52nd Mission Support Group

A big "thanks" go to three folks of "superstar caliber" from the 52nd Communications Squadron who keep the

mail flowing at the post offices ... **Staff Sgt. Eric Brooks**, **Senior Airman Dedrick Graham** and **Airman 1st Class Joshua Boswell**. From the same squadron, **Staff Sgt. Kimberly Drake** and **Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek** are a "cut above the rest" in their effort to "cover the globe with imagery."

52nd Medical Group

Kicking it off for the medical group is **Staff Sgt. Kelly Cason** from the dental squadron ... she excels in assisting during simple procedures and complicated surgeries. Good job! **Maj. Bryan Vyverberg** also excelled as he gave a very valuable (and timely) predeployment briefing to the "stinger" spouses. Last but not least is **Maj. David Duque** ... he has done an outstanding job staying on top of the medical arena in the deployment processing lines.

Kudos to all, Team Eifel salutes you!

(Compiled by 2nd Lt. Gerardo Gonzalez, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)

Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek
Members of the 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Outbound Element make up this week's Top Saber Team.

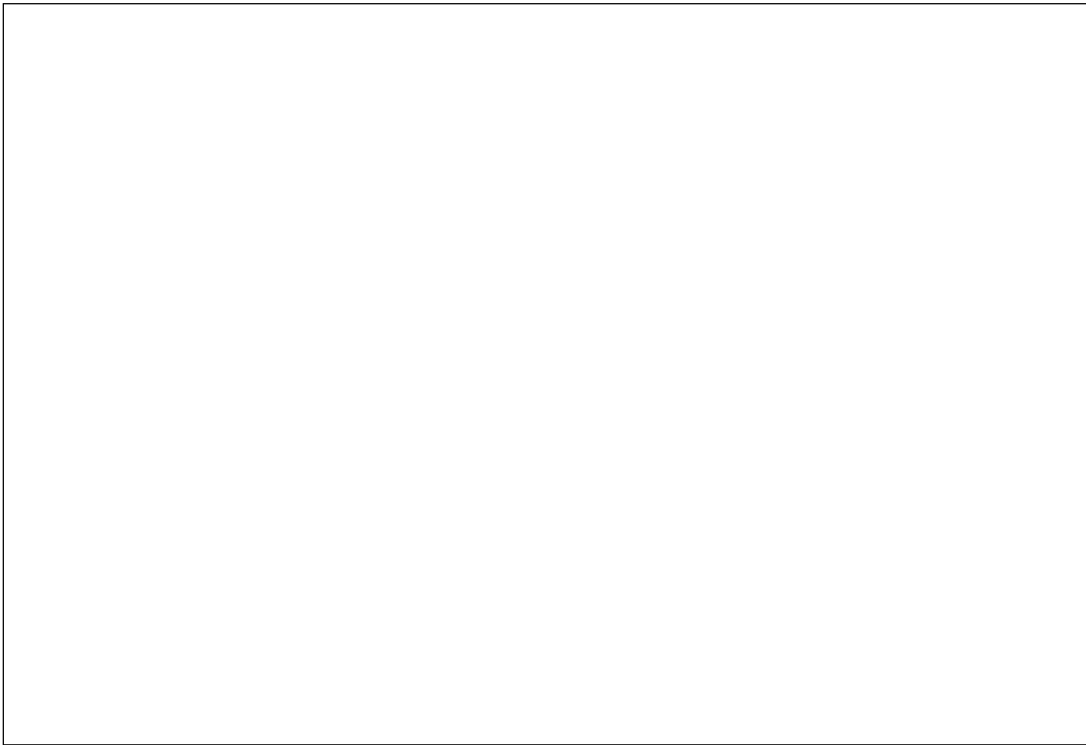
Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Outbound Element

Unit responsibilities: A mission oriented element, the outbound element is responsible for all the cargo movement and shipments leaving Spangdahlem Air Base for the United States or anywhere in the world, as well as the cargo movement support for 17 geographically-separated units.

Number of members: Nine active-duty members and eight German civilians.

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? Outbound element members prepare and inspect everything requiring movement worldwide. They pack and crate the cargo, initiate the customs and road/air clearance paperwork, and contract civilian and military carriers to move the cargo worldwide. Element members are also responsible for initiating all damage claims due to carrier's mishandling of Air Force cargo, which can recoup wing money spent on the movement of these items. In two recent deployments, they were able to recoup \$14,000 for Team Eifel. They also led the Air Staff's first U.S. Air Forces in Europe test-base for the new Centralized Intermediate Repair Facilities and transported eight CIRF engines in two hours – 22 hours below the set standard! During the 2002 HQ USAFE Inspector General Operational Readiness Inspection, the USAFE IG Team cited the cargo move in their report as a "strength."



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Staff Sgt. Larry Hogan, Senior Airman Joe Stafford, Staff Sgt. Tony Groves, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, load survival provisions for deployment Jan. 8

Deployment

Continued from Page 1

waiting bus. "For a lot of our folks this is their first time out."

That wasn't the case for Senior Airman Shaun Welden, a 52nd CMS electrician.

"I've been on deployments before," said the 22-year old Welden. "As far as this deployment goes, I'm not too worried about it."

"A lot of people are actually looking forward to it," said Tech. Sgt. Timothy Roberts, a 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief.

"I've done it before," said Roberts, who was stationed at Spangdahlem AB during the Persian Gulf War. "(They) are excited about it ... it's doing something different."

Earlier in the week Capt. Ron Ruppel, Personnel Deployment Facility officer-in-charge, oversaw the processing of these troops as they went through the PDF where representatives from various base organizations made sure all members were prepared and cleared to deploy.

"They look 'gung-ho' to me," said Ruppel, about the troops he saw going through. "It's amazing. These people want to go."

One deploying member was initially disqualified to go because he was on a shaving waiver and his beard prevented him from getting a good seal on his gas mask, said Ruppel. Fearing he would be left behind, the individual asked what

he needed to do to be able to deploy. The airman needed to get rid of the shaving waiver, be able to shave daily and get his gas mask rechecked to ensure a good seal.

With swift help from his unit and the airmen at the PDF, the individual received permission from his commander to lose the waiver, shaved, got his gas mask properly fitted and became eligible to deploy.

Back at the theater a deploying pilot, Capt. Darren Gray, spoke with an Associated Press correspondent, who was part of a group of international news media covering the departure.

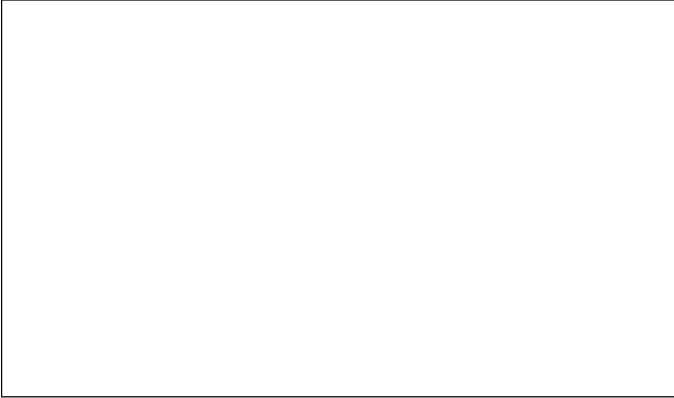
The heightened tensions make this a non-routine deployment, said Gray, who flies the F-16CJ and has nearly 30 combat missions under his belt. When asked if he was leaving any loved ones behind Gray acknowledged he had a girlfriend who wasn't happy about his departure, however ...

"You do what's necessary when the country calls," he added.

Acknowledging that deployments are hard on military members and their loved ones, the wing commander reassured the deploying Team Eifel airmen as he brought his pep talk to a close.

"What I want to do is promise to you that we'll give 100 percent in taking care of your family," said Mueller. "We'll give 100 percent in taking care of your needs."

Right: Staff Sgt. Lucy Richardson, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, takes roll call in the base theater before deployment briefings begin. Below: Deployment briefers and wing leaders wave goodbye to co-workers and friends headed for the flightline.



Tech. Sgt. Joseph Springfield



Tech. Sgt. Joseph Springfield

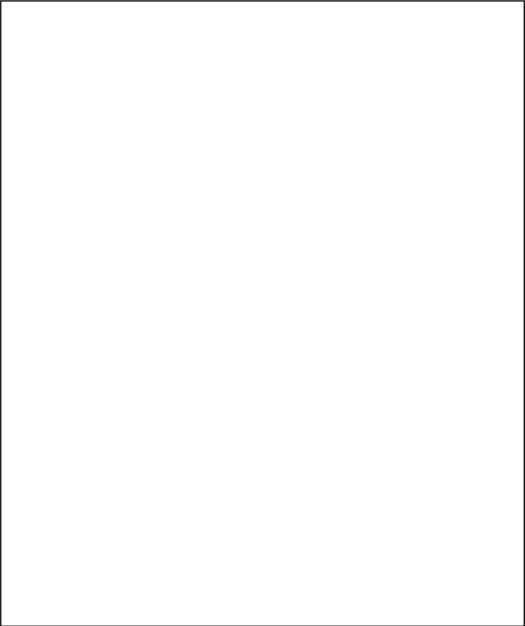


Tech. Sgt. Joseph Springfield

Staff Sgt. William Rutherford, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, kisses his wife goodbye in the base theater as his daughter, left, waits for her turn.



Photos below and above by Tech. Sgt. Joseph Springfield



Above: Chief Master Sgt. Ken McQuiston, 52nd Fighter Wing comm- and chief master sergeant, and wing leaders give deploying wing members a final handshake goodbye on the flightline. Left: Deploying members board the aircraft.

Community Mailbox

Childcare course

An American Red Cross babysitting training class takes place Jan. 24 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Registration deadline is today. Cost is \$25. Call 452-9440 to register.

Family support news

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem AB building 307. Call 452-9491 for details.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Monday from 1-2 p.m.

■German bills made easy, Thursday from 8-9:30 a.m.

■Resume writing, Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon.

■Sponsor training, Thursday from 3-4 p.m.

■Basic investing, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Preseparation consultation, Jan. 27 from 9-10:30 a.m.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Preparing for air expeditionary force deployment, Wednesday from 6-8 p.m.

■Creative critters, Jan. 27 from 10-11 a.m.

Craft meeting

Scrapbookers meet Saturday from 4-10 p.m. in the Bitburg Elementary School cafeteria to create holiday albums. Participants should bring scrapbooking equipment and snacks to share. Call Sharon Bays at 06561-604117 for details.

Business fair

The Bitburg Middle School sixth grade business fair takes place Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. Sample products will be on display.

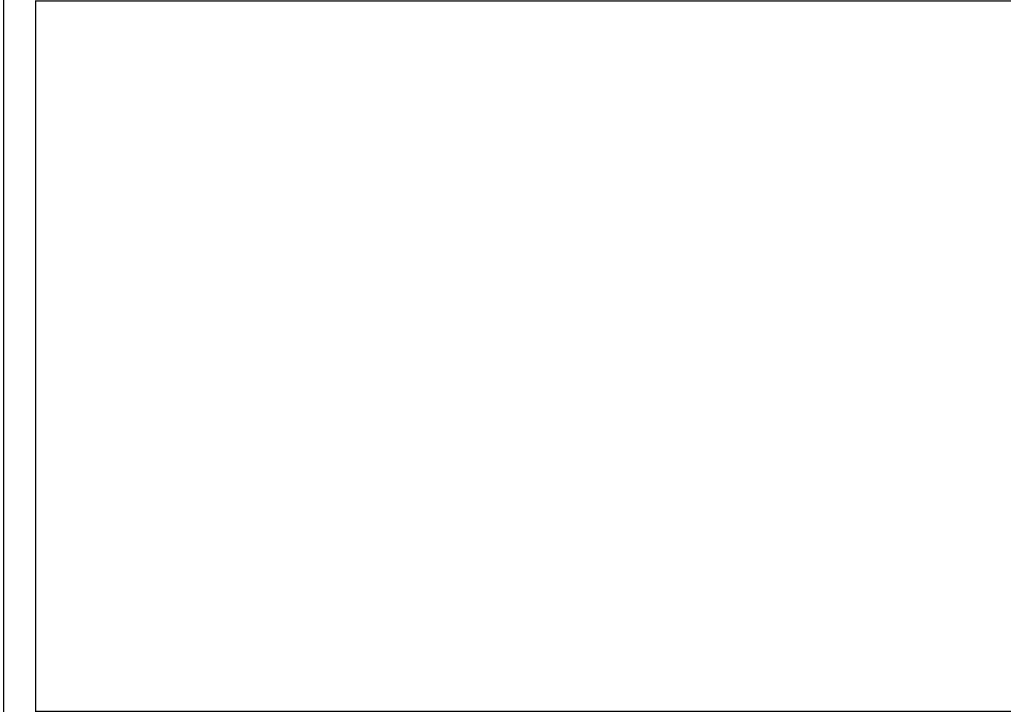
Singles dinner

A free military singles dinner takes place Wednesday at 5 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Chapel. Open to all ranks. Call the chapel office at 452-6711 for details.

CAC news

The following events take place in the base community activity center, building 124. Call 452-7381 for details.

■Voice and piano lessons take place each Monday and Wednesday from 3-7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per 30 minutes. There's a minimum of



Airman 1st Class Karolina Gmyrek

Free stuff

Janell Baquering, Bitburg Annex Airman's Attic volunteer, sorts clothing donations and adds them to the rack. The Airman's Attic offers Eifel community members a place to donate and find free used clothing, household goods and more. The Bitburg Annex branch, located in building 2001, and the Spangdahlem AB branch, located in building 307, is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Program organizers also seek volunteers. Call Kelly Childs at 452-9491 to volunteer.

three sessions per student.

■The chess club meets Saturday. Meetings are open to players at all levels.

■Baby photo contest takes place Feb. 3-7. Photos of babies up to 2-years-old qualify. The public votes on favorite baby expressions Feb. 8-10. Prizes awarded for first, second and third place.

Girl Scouts

Girl Scout cookie sales take place on the weekends at the Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex post offices, commissaries and shopettes through January. "Operation Cookie Drop" also offers customers the opportunity to send Girl Scout cookies to deployed troops. Call Zandria Rogers at 06561-604100 for more information.

Community Bank news

Community Banks close early Tuesday for an official function. The Bitburg Annex branch is open from 10 a.m. to noon. The Spangdahlem AB branch is open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Staying fit

The Health and Wellness Center offers the following workshops in building 130. For more information, call 452-9355.

■Cholesterol management, Thursday at 10 a.m.

■Jump start, a class about nutrition and

exercise, Jan. 28 at 9 a.m.

■Healthy cooking demonstration, Jan. 29 from 1-2 p.m.

■Two-course class on how to make healthy choices when eating out, Jan. 30 and Feb. 6 at 11 a.m.

■Stress management workshop, Jan. 30 at 1 p.m.

Preschooler playtime

Mothers of Preschoolers meets Jan. 27 at 9:30 a.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 139. Meetings take place the second and fourth Monday of each month. MOPS features crafts and guest speakers for mothers while children are cared for on the premises. Call the chapel office at 452-6711 for more information.

Prayer luncheon

A national prayer luncheon takes place Jan. 28 at 11:30 a.m. at the Saber Club. Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Lorraine Potter, Air Force Chapel Services chief, is the guest speaker. Cost is \$5 per person. Purchase tickets from unit first sergeants or at the base chapel by Tuesday. Dress is uniform of the day. Call the chapel office at 452-6711 for more information.

Education center news

The base education office is located in building 192. Call the office at 452-6063 for more information.

■University of Oklahoma offers a master's

level class on performance appraisal Feb. 18-23. Registration deadline is Monday. Call the OU branch office at 452-7555 for more information.

■University of Maryland University College offers a variety of \$500 scholarships for undergraduate and graduate studies that can be used for Term 4 tuition and books, which begins March 31. Students who already receive financial aid are also eligible to apply. Visit www.ed.umuc.edu for scholarship application and requirements. Also visit the UMUC branch office in the education center for the necessary essay information.

Pet Spa hours

The Pet Spa is now open Monday-Friday from noon to 6 p.m. Appointments are available on the weekends for pick-ups and drop-offs. Call 452-9362 for more information. Also, for veterinary care, call the Army Veterinary Clinic at 452-9388.

Club news

For more information about the following events, call the Saber Club at 452-6090, Spang Club at 452-452-7494 for details.

Saber Club

■Comedy after dark, Saturday. Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m. Cost in advance is \$10 for club members, \$13 for non-members.

■Burger burn, each Friday from 5-7 p.m. on the club patio. Free for members, non-member pay \$6.

Spang Club Cockpit Lounge

■Crud tournament, Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Cockpit Lounge. Spouses and teams are encouraged to participate. Registration deadline is Wednesday. Call Matty Garr at 452-5441 to play.

College grant

Gen. Henry H. Arnold Education Grant applications are currently available by visiting www.afas.org, or at either family support center location on Spangdahlem AB or the Bitburg Annex. The grant, sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, is designed to help supplement funding for military sons and daughters attending an accredited college, university, or vocational school full-time. Applications must be mailed to AFAS headquarters and arrive at the organization by March 14. For more information or application assistance, call John Costello, the base Air Force Aid Society officer, at 452-9491.

Talent show

A youth talent show takes place March 6 in the base theater. Youth ages 6-18 are encouraged to enter in vocal, instrumental, performing arts and dance categories. Registration deadline is Feb. 10. Call 452-7381 for details.

Der Markt

Advertisement policy

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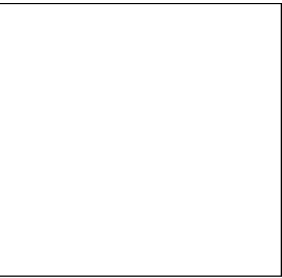
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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a
way to get answers to questions
you still have after using your
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general
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Submit your Direct Line via:

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■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE
09126

■To PA in building 23.

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via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are
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response you must include your
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Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more
information.

Sortie
Scoreboard

Unit Goal Flown

22FS 76 37
23FS 105 96
81FS 89 77

Sorties flown
Jan. 6-12

Viewpoint

Jan. 17, 2003

Page 6

Commander's view

Key to optimizing team strength
is recognizing member potential

By Lt. Col. Michael Panosian
52nd Medical Operations Squadron commander

Teamwork is the formula for success. We
have heard this foot-stomped since our early
days of sports and scouting and repeatedly
throughout our Air Force careers. By now we
should all understand its importance as a critical
element to mission success, especially as
resources shrink and taskings expand.

There are many components to teamwork.
The aspect I wish to highlight is the value of
the individual.

Vince Lombardi, the great National Football
League coach, captured the importance of each
person with the following statement.

“Individual commitment to a group effort —
that is what makes a team work, a company
work, a society work, a civilization work.” And,
“The achievements of an organization are the
results of the combined effort of each individ-
ual.”

Phil Jackson, the championship winning
Chicago Bulls coach, summed it up even more
simply and succinctly when he said, “The
strength of the team is each individual member
... the strength of each individual member is the
team.”

Individual capabilities yield synergies in
teamwork and create the strength of the team.
Each member brings a personal toolbox full of
skills, talents, resources and ideas. Teamwork
gets them to open up their toolboxes for the
benefit of the group, producing a result, which
is much greater than the sum of its parts.

To optimize the team we must acknowledge

and tap into the potential of each and every
member. As supervisors we sometimes get into a
comfort zone and return to the same “go to”
people again and again. This often burns the
worker bees out while passing up the quiet co-
worker who may be the next star just waiting
for a push to get started.

“As supervisors we sometimes
get into a comfort zone and return
to the same “go to” people again
and again. This often burns the
worker bees out while passing up
the quiet co-worker who may be
the next star just waiting for a
push to get started.”

I have been repeatedly amazed during my
career by individuals who blossom and shine
once given a little mentorship and opportunity.
Everyone has a valuable contribution to make
— we need to recognize the talents of all and
provide the tools and opportunities to capture
their full potential.

On a football team there may be a few stars,
but a play doesn’t succeed unless every player
does his part. In a clock, each and every gear
and pin plays a valuable role. If a single gear
tooth breaks, the whole clockwork may fail.
What appears to be a small, insignificant com-
ponent is in fact as important as every other
part.

We must acknowledge the importance of each
component and take care of it as if it was the
most important piece, the same way we need to
care for all of our people. A surgical team is
made up of many people with different skills —
the surgeon, surgery technician, circulating
nurse, anesthetist, central sterile supply techni-
cian who prepares the surgical sets and the
logistician who furnishes the supplies. Each per-
son is a critical part of the team, which the sur-
geon depends upon. If any part fails, the process
falters and a successful result is more difficult
to achieve.

Our team’s greatest asset is the collection of
individual skills and talents and the mission
doesn’t succeed without the full contribution
from all. We must continually mentor and
acknowledge their importance.

Everyone can’t be a quarterly award winner,
but we can easily acknowledge, thank and rec-
ognize any one informally during our daily rou-
tine. A simple pat on the back, “thank you” or
“job well done” can go a long way. It acknowl-
edges individual contribution, builds self-esteem
and trust and makes our people want to con-
tribute even more.

Recognizing the parts makes the whole
stronger — there is a synergistic effect. This
strengthened team is the key to mission success.

So get to know your folks, support their fam-
ilies and acknowledge their daily contributions.
It’s through our individual contributions, com-
ing together as a team, that we can make Team
Eifel stronger and realize the full potential of
our Air Force team.

Letters to the editor

Panthers thank community
for support during loss

The men and women of the 81st Fighter Squadron wish to extend our
heartfelt thanks to the rest of the 52nd Fighter Wing, the local Team Eifel
community and the 57th Wing, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., for your support
and kindness over the last few difficult weeks.

The loss of our brother and comrade, Capt. Eric Palaro, has been diffi-
cult, but your support has made it easier.

The Panther Family would especially like to thank the U.S. Air Force
Weapons School and Air Warrior’s entire staffs, the 52nd Fighter Wing
Chapel Services staff and our fellow operations squadrons for their caring
and support.

Additionally, the 22nd FS “Stingers,” 23rd FS “Fighting Hawks,” and
52nd Operations Support Squadron “Griffins” contributed great amounts of
time and effort to make Capt. Palaro’s memorial service and reception go
perfectly.

Many thanks to you all,

The Panthers

Student council thanks DeCA
for fundraising contributions

As Department of Defense Dependent Schools continue to face budget

cuts and teachers learn to do “more with less,” there is one particular mili-
tary agency that continually helps our local community schools.

The Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex commissaries, their lead-
ers, Alfred Alferez and Ernestina Vasquez, and many food vendors always
willingly assist Eifel schools in any way they can.

Most recently this team arranged for breakfast items to be donated so that
the Bitburg High School Student Council could prepare a breakfast for its
faculty in honor or National Education week. They also have donated sup-
plies to our nursing staff, donated refreshments for awards assemblies and
student recognition programs, and helped with fundraising projects.

This spring, the Defense Commissary Agency will also assist students by
providing college scholarships for two deserving students as they have done
for the past two years.

What an awesome military agency DECA is! What more could our
school community ask for?

On behalf of the Bitburg High School Student Council, we thank Mrs.
Vasquez and Mr. Alferez, and their many associates for their continued help
and support.

Sincerely,

Marie John

Bitburg High School Student Council President

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Solaris (PG-13)

Dr. Chris Kelvin is asked to investigate the unexplained behavior of a small group of scientists aboard the space station Prometheus, who have cut off all communication with Earth. (Nudity, language and thematic elements.)

Saturday

Brown Sugar (PG-13)

Dre and Sidney can attribute their friendship to a single childhood moment. Fifteen years later, as they lay down the tracks for their futures, hip-hop isn't the only thing that keeps them coming back to that moment on the corner. (Sexuality and language.)

Sunday

Solaris

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

The Transporter (PG-13)

Dangerous complications ensue when a former U.S. Special Forces soldier, turned expatriate mercenary, is hired to kidnap the feisty daughter of a lethal Chinese cook who's smuggling his fellow countrymen into France. (Violence and sensuality.)

Thursday

Red Dragon (R)

After capturing Dr. Hannibal Lecter, former FBI agent Will Graham is recruited to help track down a new killer who has slaughtered entire families. To do this, he has to work with the imprisoned Lecter, with whom he shares a unique relationship. (Violence, language and nudity.)

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Analyze That (R)

Paul Vitti is released from prison and hooks up with therapist Ben Sobel, who may need more psychological help than his mobster patient. The burden of Sobel taking over his deceased father's practice is making him just crazy enough to have another wacky adventure with his wife and mobster companion. (Language and sexual content.)

Formula 51 (R, 10 p.m.)

Elmo and his blue magic formula has sparked a gold rush. Everyone wants a piece of the action. Who will out smart whom? Who will walk away with the formula? (Violence, language, drug content and sexuality.)

Saturday

Tuck Everlasting (PG)

When Winnie is lost in the woods near her home, she happens upon Jesse, a boy unlike any she's ever met before. His family holds a powerful secret and Winnie must decide whether to return to her life or stay with Jesse. (Violence.)

Analyze That (10 p.m.)

Sunday

Tuck Everlasting

Monday

Formula 51

Tuesday

Ghost Ship (PG)

A boat salvage crew discovers the remains of a passenger liner lost for more than 40 years. Onboard, the crew must confront the ship's past. (Violence, language and sexuality.)

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.



File photo by Iris Reiff

Painting the town

Members of an art club march through Trier dressed as painter's palettes during the city Fasching parade. During Fasching, which kicks off Feb. 27 with Ladies Day in the Eifel region, people dress up in costumes, have parties and participate in town parades before the Lenten season begins. Fasching costumes are currently begin sold in local department stores. They can range from something as simple as a clown nose and wig to ornate gowns. This year Lent begins March 5.

‘Schlussverkauf!’
Signs mark big savings during Germany’s sale season

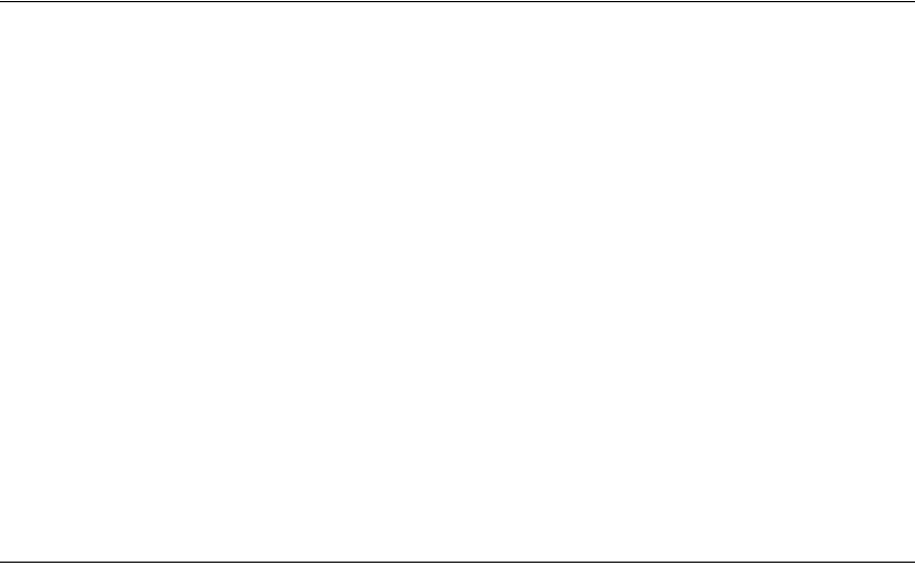
By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

From mid-January through the first week of February, shop owners put winter wares on clearance to make room for new summer stock.

During Germany's winter clearance sales, shoppers can find clothes, shoes, towels, curtains and carpets at reduced prices. Reductions commonly run between 25 and 50 percent or more.

To find out what's on sale, shoppers should look at price tags. Only items marked at a reduced price are part of the clearance sale. This is especially important to scoring a true bargain, because today's manufacturers offer merchandise created for clearance sales, which is usually lower quality. Shoppers can also look for large signs, which commonly hang over store shelves stating, "Schlussverkauf," meaning "clearance sales."

Many stores set up "Wuehltische," or rummage tables, for customers to dig through to find bargains. This is an experience. American customers shouldn't be surprised to discover excited or aggressive shoppers while scouring the Wuehltische. The tables get a lot of attention and work on a first-come, first-served basis. Some people even use their



File photo by Iris Reiff

Shoppers search a sale bin for the size socks they need. Winter sales take place now through early February.

elbows to bully a position at a table to find what they need.

German stores are typically very crowded throughout the sales season and parking can be limited as well. Most stores open at 9 a.m. and some shoppers arrive early and wait in line to score a bargain.

While the smaller shops in Bitburg and Wittlich stick to the customary 6 p.m. closing time, many larger stores

welcome shoppers until 8 p.m. However, the business world typically shuts its doors Saturday at 4 p.m.

For a less stressful shopping experience, people can opt to take the train to larger cities, such as Trier or Cologne, rather than driving a vehicle. The closest train stations to the base are in Erdorf and Speicher. Call the Trier main train station at 0651-19419 for travel information. English is spoken.

Out and About

(Editor's note: Event dates and times are subject to change. To confirm event details, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. Tourist office agents, who usually speak English, can also confirm event information.)

■An antique market takes place Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Trier Europa hall.

■Pothead performs rock music tonight at the Trier Exhaus, located on Zurmaienerstrasse, the road that leads into the city coming from the Autobahn. Exhaus is located on the right.

■Shop at flea markets Sunday along the Zeltingen Mosel shore, at the

Machern cloister, inside and outside the Trier-Feyen Floh market hall, at the Pruem Messe area, at the Aachen ice sports hall, at the Cologne Uni Platz near the Uni-Center, and inside and outside the Koblenz Extra market parking house.

■The 4th Trier Jazz concert takes place Jan. 24 at the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center.

■Listen to reggae music Tuesday at the Trier Exzellenshaus.

■See "Mamma - Come Together," a musical, Feb. 12 at the Trier Europa hall.

■See "Grease," a musical, March 16 at the Trier Messe Park hall.

■Miguel plays flamenco guitar music Feb. 15 at the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center.

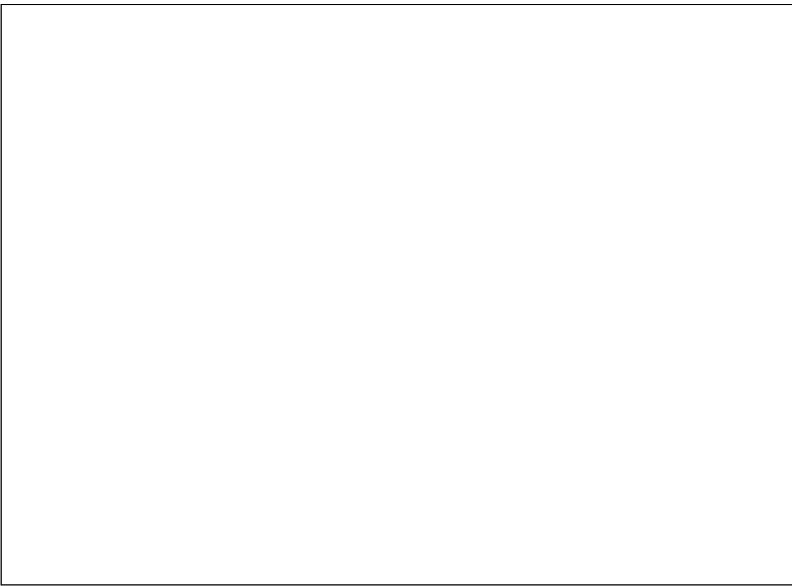
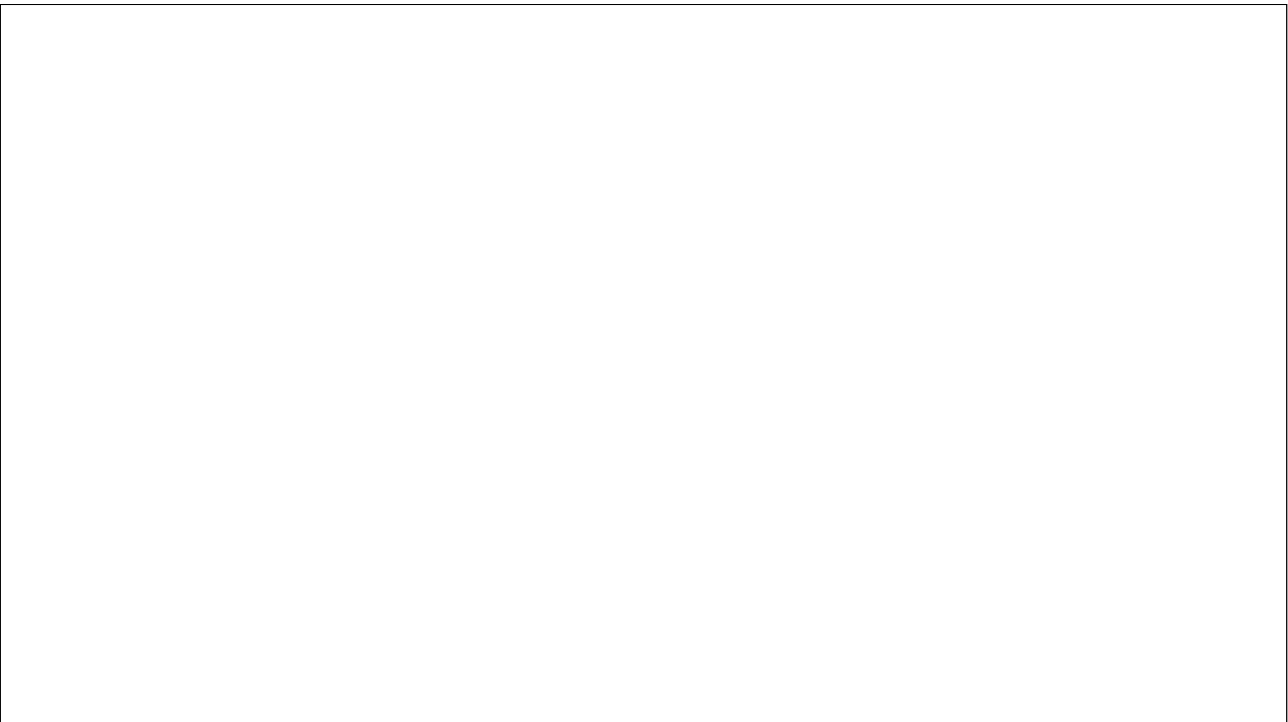
■Listen to an Irish folk concert by Geraldine MacGowan & Friends Feb. 6 at the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center.

■Status Quo, a rock band, performs March 28 at the Trier Messe Park hall.

Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in January and February. People should register for trips at least three days in advance. Children's prices are for ages 3-12, unless specified otherwise. Call 452-6567 for more information.

■London express tour, Jan. 24-25. Cost is \$89 for adults, \$85 for children.

■Cochem castle medieval dinner, Jan. 25. Cost is \$65 per person.



Photos by Airman First Class Karolina Gmyrek
Left: Carletta Hernandez, Bitburg High School Lady Barons, shoots to defeat AFNorth, Netherlands, in the junior varsity game Saturday. Above: Melodie Duperval, Lady Barons JV, left, dribbles past an AFNorth point guard during the game Saturday.

Lady Barons tight defense tames Lions

Junior, varsity teams open basketball season with four game victory over AFNorth

By Denny Lemmon
Lady Barons basketball coach

The Bitburg High School Lady Barons opened their 2003 basketball season with big victories over the AFNorth Lions. On Friday night the junior varsity team defeated the Lions 21 to 11 and the varsity rolled on to a 44 to 18 win. On Saturday morning the junior varsity team continued to dominate their AFNorth neighbors 37 to 17. The varsity team struggled in the first half, but was finally victorious at the buzzer 30-19.

Varsity action

The game was on when the varsity team shocked the AFNorth Lions with their devastating full-court pressure defense. The Lions could only manage four points in the first half while the Lady Barons chalked up 24. Super Sophomore Nadia Parker hit 14 of her game high 20 points in that first half.

The varsity team continued the pressure in the second half outscoring their opponents 20-14. Senior Tanja Moore scored six points and pulled down four rebounds. Junior Chelsea

Gavagan added six points while Parker led the team in steals with seven. Saturday afternoon the varsity Lions were determined to put on a better show than they did the night before. The team stunned the Lady Barons by leading at the end of the first quarter 6-3. Neither team could generate much offense, but the Lady Barons did manage to take the lead at the half 16-15.

At the start of the third quarter, BHS varsity tried a special defense to slow down the scoring of the two outstanding guards from AFNorth. Erica Winters and Chelsea Gavagan took on that defensive assignment. They did their job so well that the entire AFNorth team only managed four points throughout the entire second half.

Nadia Parker once again led the team in scoring with 24 points. She also pulled down 19 big rebounds and intimidated the opponents with six blocked shots. Gavagan and Winters hustled well on defense, led the offensive attack and they each had four assists. Senior Sabrina Blaus moved well defensively making some key steals. She also showed great strength in the rebounding department.

Junior varsity action

Freshman Carletta Hernandez and Sophomore Melodie Dupervall led the junior varsity offensive attack in the week-end's games by scoring 22 and 16 points respectively. Dupervall, playing at the point guard position set the offensive attack and passed the ball into Hernandez for some easy buckets. Hernandez was tough to stop inside as she seemed to score with ease.

Crystal Vasquez was strong inside scoring eight points and pulled down many rebounds. Monica Bintz, Casey Martin and Andrea Drake demonstrated outstanding pressure defense throughout the games. Renee Flemmings and Jessica Renaud each scored two in the winning effort.

Upcoming games

The next two weeks, the Lady Barons will be on the road. The Lady Barons travel to Hanau this weekend in hopes of keeping their 19 game winning streak alive. It won't be easy, since Hanau played without mercy against Vilseck last weekend, winning 63-29 and 64-33.

The team travels to the Black Forest Academy Jan. 24-25.

Barons rebound following opening loss to AFNorth

By Lin Hairstone
Bittburg Barons basketball coach

The high school boys team came back after an ugly performance Friday night. Errors, missed shots and poor defense plagued the Barons all night in the season opener against AFNorth, who won 45-37.

However during one bright spot, Freshman B.J. Phillips added a much needed inside presence. Senior Joel Parker hit 14 points for the Barons with Senior Ryan Thomas capping eight and B.J. Phillips dropping six.

It was one tough loss for the Barons. Saturday proved once again that the Barons have bounce back power. The team edged the AFNorth Lions by one, finishing the day with a 52-51 game. Joel Parker had 28 points and 11 boards followed by Eric

Polumbo with 13 points, six steals and four assists. Player B.J. Phillips pulled down nine rebounds. The team record stands at 1-1. Next up, the Barons travel to Hanau for a weekend match.

Junior varsity action

Coach David Martz keeps the JV Barons rolling. With all 15 players on the court, the JV Barons handed the AFNorth Lions their first loss of the season winning Friday night 25-14. Jessie Gutierrez had the game high of eight points.

Saturday, the JV Barons took control from the jump ball and held the AFNorth Lions to 11 points while dropping 35 in the contest. Trey Wilson lead the Barons with eight points followed by Brian Mezger's seven and Brandon Morales' five. The team record stands at 2-0.

BHS wrestlers pin Giessen tourney gold

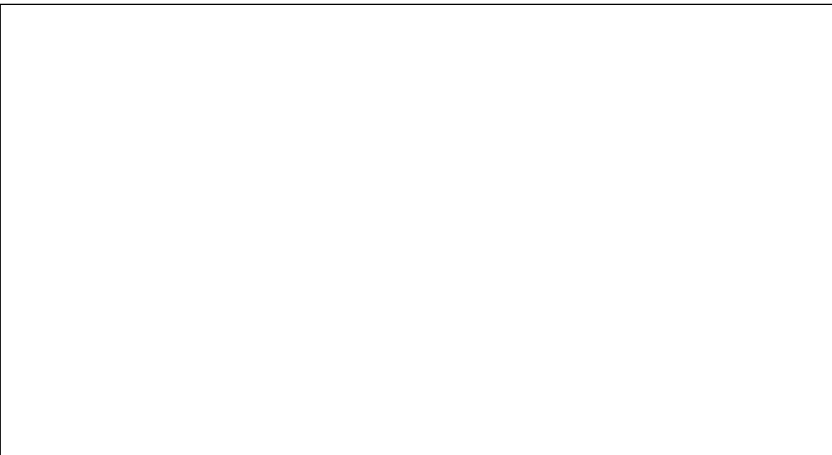
By Ethan Lake
Bittburg Barons wrestling assistant coach

Disappointment and confusion turned to celebration recently when the Bitburg Baron wrestling team moved up from second to first place at the Pentagonal wrestling tournament in Giessen, Germany, Saturday.

The Barons initially were reported as placing second behind Division I Kaiserslautern, despite concerns about Kaiserslatern's final score. Officials, who reviewed the points awarded discovered that the Barons didn't receive credit for Anthony Messina, the team's 112 pound wrestler who ended up taking first place.

The Barons ended up taking the tournament with a final score of 244 points. Kaiserslautern took second place with 228 points. Following suit were Wiesbaden with 188.5 points, Ansbach with 91.5 points and Giessen with 66 points.

Bringing home the gold for the Barons were Danial Brunal weighing in at 103 pounds, Anthony Massina at 112 pounds, Kyle McQuiston at 119 pounds, Devon Gardner at 130 pounds, and Jordan Watts at 160



Jay Gardner
Anthony Messina looks to his coaches for instructions as he moves to pin his Ansbach opponent. Messina's quick action scored first place in 112 pound weight class. The teammate's win put the Barons on top beating out Division I rival Kaiserslautern.

pounds. Silvers were claimed by Matt Wilson at 103 pounds, David Vilanova at 125 pounds, Brian Wright at 189 pounds and Randy Van Ginkel at 275 pounds. Wrapping up the top three with bronze medals were Joe Mueller at 103 pounds, Steven Bagwell at 119 pounds, Steve Gutschow at 140 pounds, Matt Giffin at 152 pounds and Justin Cole at 189 pounds.

The Bitburg Baron will have

another shot to wrestle the Kaiserslautern Raiders in K-Town where they will also compete against six other schools Saturday. The following week, the Barons compete in a home meet against AFNORTH, SHAPE, Brussels, Baumholder, Mannheim, and Ramstein in the Heptagonal tournament Jan. 25. The event takes place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center.